

(Within Washington Valley, NR district)

BA-1111

may 10 1980

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON: Octagon House				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: North side of Piney Grove Road west of Butler Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Glyndon				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Baltimore		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments				
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____				
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____				
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Janet H. Hughes - c/o Robert A. Bicks				
STREET AND NUMBER: Breed, Abbott, & Morgan, 1 Chase Manhattan Plaza				
CITY OR TOWN: New York		STATE: New York 10005		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Baltimore County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Towson		STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 597/575				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is a rather small, three storey rubble stone, stuccoed house of octagonal shape, set in the hillside, allowing the basement storey to open nearly at grade. Stucco is scored in imitation of ashlar. Each side contains a 6/6 window in each of the two principal storeys; a window containing a single six-light sash is in every other side of the third storey. The principal entrance to both the main floor and to the basement is in the south side, sheltered by a shed roofed wooden porch. The north-east side contains a secondary entrance to the main floor, also sheltered by a shed roofed wooden porch. In the second storey of the north side is a pair of 4/4 windows, in lieu of the single 6/6 window, a variation caused by a partition inside. The brick chimney rises above the corner formed by the west and northwest walls, bent to conform to the two planes of the two walls. The roof is a low eight-sided pyramid, rising above a simple wood cornice, capped with a low finial.

Internally, the stair case rises through the center of the house, and the chimney serves a fireplace in each storey except the third. The mantel in the principal storey consists of oval columns supporting a paneled frieze and moulded shelf. The south front door consists of six partially-raised panels, a pair of smaller ones being immediately above the lock rails, with a pair of taller ones above and below. Some interior doors are of four raised but unmoulded panels. Many partitions appear to have been relocated, and most finished work inside is of the 20th century.

South of the house is a stone spring house with a gable roof.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Octagon House, located on the northside of Piney Grove Road adjoining the St. John's Church property, was undoubtedly built from a design published in the 1850's in Orson S. Fowler's A Home For All. Fowler advocated building walls of 'gravel' (a mixture of small rubble stone and mortar), poured in wooden molds, and finished with a stucco surface - exactly the technique employed in constructing this house.

A deed of 1858 devised the property to Eleanor Johnson Bruster and Ann W. Johnson who were descendants of the Walker family. Since Ann Johnson was unmarried, it is likely that the Octagon House was built for her use. It was very near the family homestead, "Woodburn" in which the Hopkins Atlas of Baltimore County of 1877 indicates Mrs. Bruster lived.

The "Woodburn" estate was first occupied by Charles Walker (1744-1825). He had married Ann Cradock, daughter of Dr. Thomas Cradock, rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Garrison, and fought in the American Revolution. In 1816, Charles Walker donated the land for St. John's Church, worthington. One of his daughters married into the Hickman Johnson family of Locust Hill and through her, the property descended through several generations until 1924 when the farm was sold at auction to Herman J. Hughes whose heirs now own the Octagon House.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and Baltimore County.
(Philadelphia, 1881). P. 362.

Baltimore County Tax Assessments: 1876, 1896.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. 1877. (Philadelphia, 1877)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 270 acres

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Catherine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA		DATE
ORGANIZATION Worthington Valley Historical District Project		Jan. 1, 1976
STREET AND NUMBER: 1114 Bellemore Road		
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE Maryland	

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____



Octagon House

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